ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಿಧಾನಸಭೆ

ಹತ್ತನೆಯ ವಿಧಾನಸಭೆಯ ಎಂಟನೆಯ ಅಧಿವೇಶನ

8ನೇ ಮಾರ್ಚ್ 1999 ಸಾಯನ ಸೌರ ಫಾಲ್ಗುಣ

ವಿಧಾನಮಂಡಲದ ಉಭಯ ಸದನಗಳನ್ನುದ್ದೇಶಿಸಿ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರು ಮಾಡಿದ ಭಾಷಣ

ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರು (ಶ್ರೀ ಖುರ್ಷಿದ್ ಆಲಂಖಾನ್):— ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಿಧಾನಸಭೆ ಹಾಗೂ ವಿಧಾನ ಪರಿಷತ್ತಿನ ಸಂಯುಕ್ತ ಅಧಿವೇಶನವನ್ನುದ್ದೇಶಿಸಿ ವಿಧಾನ ಸಭೆಯ ಸಭಾಂಗಣದಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ 8ನೇ ಮಾರ್ಚ್ 1999ರ ಸೋಮವಾರದಂದು ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 12 ಗಂಟೆ 15 ನಿಮಿಷಕ್ಕೆ ಮಾಡಿದ ಭಾಷಣ

ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರು ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 12 ಗಂಟೆ 10 ನಿಮಿಷಕ್ಕೆ ವಿಧಾನಸೌಧದ ಮುಖ್ಯದ್ವಾರದ ಬಳಿ ಇರುವ ದ್ವಾರ ಮಂಟಪಕ್ಕೆ ಆಗಮಿಸಿದರು. ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರು ತಮ್ಮ ಕಾರಿನಿಂದ ಇಳಿದ ಬಳಿಕ ಅವರನ್ನು ಮಾನ್ಯ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು, ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸಭಾಪತಿಯವರು ಮತ್ತು ಉಭಯ ಸದನಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಗಳವರು ಸ್ವಾಗತಿಸಿದರು. ನಂತರ, ಪೂರ್ವಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಮೆಟ್ಟಿಲುಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ ಮೊದಲನೇ ಮಹಡಿಗೆ ಆಗಮಿಸಿದ ಬಳಿಕ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕ್ರಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಮೆರವಣಿಗೆಯನ್ನು ರೂಪಿಸಲಾಯಿತು.

ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಯವರು	ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಯವರು
ವಿಧಾನಸಭೆ	ವಿಧಾನಪರಿಷತ್ತು
ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು	ಸಭಾಪತಿಯವರು

ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರು : ಎ.ಡಿ.ಸಿ.

ಮೆರವಣಿಗೆಯು ವಿಧಾನಸಭಾ ಸದನದ ಕಡೆಗೆ ಹೊರಟಿತು. ಸಭಾ ಸದನದ ದ್ವಾರದ ಬಳಿ ಮೆರವಣಿಗೆ ಬಂದ ಕೂಡಲೇ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಆಗಮನವನ್ನು ಮಾರ್ಷಲ್‌ರವರು ಸಭೆಗೆ ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು ಮತ್ತು ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರಗೀತೆಯನ್ನು ನುಡಿಸಲಾಯಿತು. ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರು ಸದನವನ್ನು ಪ್ರವೇಶಿಸಿ ವೇದಿಕೆಯ ಮೇಲೆ ಕುಳಿತುಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ತನಕ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸದಸ್ಯರೆಲ್ಲರೂ ಎದ್ದು ನಿಂತುಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದರು.

ಸಭಾಸದನದ ವೇದಿಕೆಯ ಮುಂದೆ ಬಂದ ಬಳಿಕ ಮೆರವಣಿಗೆಯು ಇಬ್ಭಾಗವಾಯಿತು. ವೇದಿಕೆ ಮೇಲೆ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಬಲಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿಯೂ, ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸಭಾಪತಿಯವರು ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಎಡಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಕುಳಿತುಕೊಂಡರು. ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರು ವೇದಿಕೆಯ ಮಧ್ಯಭಾಗದ ಆಸನದಲ್ಲಿ ಕುಳಿತುಕೊಂಡರು. ಉಭಯ

ಸದನಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಗಳವರು ವೇದಿಕೆಯ ಮುಂದಿರುವ ಆಸನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕುಳಿತುಕೊಂಡರು.

ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಭಾಷಣ:

ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರು :— ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸಭಾಪತಿಗಳೆ, ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸದಸ್ಯರೆ,

(ಈ ಹಂತದಲ್ಲಿ ಕನ್ನಡ ಚಳುವಳಿ ವಾಟಾಳ್ ಪಕ್ಷದ ಸದಸ್ಯರಾದ ಶ್ರೀ ವಾಟಾಳ್ ನಾಗರಾಜ್‌ರವರು ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರು ಭಾಷಣ ಮಾಡುವ ಸಂಪ್ರದಾಯಕ್ಕೆ ವಿರೋಧ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಪಡಿಸುತ್ತಾ ತಾವೇ ಸಿದ್ಧಪಡಿಸಿ ತಂದಿದ್ದ ಭಾಷಣವನ್ನು ಓದಲು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಸಿದರು)

It is indeed with great pleasure I welcome all of you to this joint session of the State Legislature. As this is the first session in the current year, I extend to all of you and to the people of Karnataka my good wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year. 1999 is a special year; it stands on the threshold of a new millennium.

(ಈ ಹಂತದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸದಸ್ಯರುಗಳಾದ ಬಿ.ಐ. ಪಾಟೀಲ್, ನಾರಾಯಣರಾವ್ ಬಿ. ತರಾಳೆ, ಹಾಗೂ ಅಶೋಕ ಎನ್. ಪಾಟೀಲ್‌ರವರು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ-ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರ ಗಡಿ ವಿವಾದವನ್ನು ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾಪಿಸಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ಧಿಕ್ಕಾರ ಕೂಗುತ್ತಾ ಸದನದ ಬಾವಿಗೆ ಆಗಮಿಸಿದರು)

2. A new millennium always holds out promises of change and progress. We expect this new millennium to bring accelerated scientific, cultural, technological and socio-economic development of our country, Information Technology is going to play a predominant role in achieving this progress.

(ಈ ಹಂತದಲ್ಲಿ ಬೀದರ್ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದ ಶ್ರೀ ಸೈಯದ್ ಜುಲ್ಫೀಕರ್ ಹಶ್ಮಿ ಅವರು ಅಲ್ಪಸಂಖ್ಯಾತರಿಗೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಯಾವುದೇ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳನ್ನು ರೂಪಿಸಿಲ್ಲ, ಎಂದು ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ನಿಷ್ಕ್ರಿಯತೆಯನ್ನು ವಿರೋಧಿಸಿ ಎದ್ದು ನಿಂತು ಮಾತನಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು)

3. Fully conscious of the implications, my Government has taken steps to promote the use of the technology in administration at the

state, district and taluk levels to facilitate efficient administration and speedy service to the people in all the areas of the social sector. My Government has made a conscious effort to provide basic social needs on top priority so that the deprived members of the Society can be brought on par with the rest and enabled to face the coming new era with strength and determination.

(ಈ ಹಂತದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸದಸ್ಯರಾದ ಶ್ರೀ ಮಾಟಾಳ್ ನಾಗರಾಜ್‌ರವರು ಕಪ್ಪು ಬಟ್ಟೆ ಪ್ರದರ್ಶಿಸುತ್ತಾ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ಧಿಕ್ಕಾರ ಕೂಗಿ ತಾವು ತಂದಿದ್ದ ತಾಳವನ್ನು ಬಾರಿಸತೊಡಗಿದರು)

I now place before the House my speech from para 4 to 64 and they may be taken as read.

4. I would like to emphasise before the Hon'ble Members that one of the major promises with which the Government came to power was to take up a massive housing programme for the benefit of the weaker sections of the society. I am happy to inform you that in the last four years, around four lakh houses have already been completed and the Government is committed to complete another one lakh houses during the year.

5. Recognising that education is the catalyst of progress, we have accorded high priority to primary and secondary education in our development programme. In pursuance of this policy two hundred and seventeen new Government high schools have been sanctioned and 28,986 primary school teachers have been appointed during this year. The number of school teachers recruited in the last 4 years stands at 72,373, an all time record. In addition to quantity we focus

now on improving the quality of teaching in schools. Around one lakh teachers of primary and secondary schools will be provided with adequate training during 1999-2000. Further, during this year, 4,742 classrooms have been completed taking the total number of class rooms constructed in the last 4 years, to a record of 25,791. Realising the need for proper maintenance of existing classrooms, Rs.6 crores have been earmarked, for repairs and maintenance of primary school buildings during 1998-99.

6. The Karnataka Health Systems Development Project is under implementation in the revenue divisions of Bangalore, Mysore and Belgaum. Till now Rs.126 crores have been spent. The World Bank team, which visited the State during November 1998, appreciated the commendable work done in the construction of hospitals, procurement of equipment and holding training programmes. With the completion of this project, 201 hospitals located at district and taluks would have been upgraded and modern and high quality services provided to the people. On similar lines, a KFW project, with the assistance of the German Government, is being implemented in Gulbarga division, with a total project cost of Rs.80 crores, to be taken up in two phases. Of the 51 hospitals, the work on 23 hospitals will commence from June 1999. The procurement of equipment for the project hospitals will commence shortly as all formalities have been completed.

7. The World Bank assisted IPP-VIII project has been under implementation in the areas, which are under the jurisdiction of Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Government of India and

the World Bank have agreed to extend the activities, similar to these, to 11 other cities and towns. This involves an investment of about Rs.26 crores. This would strengthen the infrastructual facilities for the family welfare programmes in these towns and cities.

8. My Government has successfully negotiated with HUDCO for a loan assistance of Rs.32 Crores to complete the remaining civil works and fully equip the new hospital complex of Sri Jayadeva Insittute of Cardiology. With this, the new hospital complex is expected to become operational during the year 1999, making available the high tech facilities to the people of the State.

9. Over the years my Government has focussed attention on schemes which would directly benefit the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and lead a substantial improvement in their quality of life. The areas focused on are education, habitation and irrigation.

10. Facilities extended are educating Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have made significant impact on their lives. There has been considerable achievement by Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students in professional as well as general courses. To encourage Schedules Caste and Scheduled Tribe boys and girls to achieve even higher academic honours, my Government proposed for the first time to send 5 meritorious students for higher studies abroad. At the same time we will be starting a Civil Service study circle to train meritorious Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe boys and girls for the

Union Public Service Commission and the Karnataka Public Service Commission examinations. We continue with our efforts to improve facilities to the students by continuing the on going programme of constructing hostel buildings. I am happy to inform the House that in the last four years my Government has constructed two hundred and thirty nine hostels. The 7th standard students are being given special coaching, keeping in view the fact that public examination has now been introduced at that level.

11. Navachetana scheme is going to focus on some of the new activities in the service sector like X-ray technicians, Operation Theatre technicians and Dialysis technicians which will provide ample employment opportunities to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates.

12. Providing irrigation to the lands of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, under Ganga Kalyana programme would be pursued vigorously with a view to bring more land under the productive use. Over 23,000 acres of land have been covered under this programme. The land purchase scheme has also been well received by the beneficiaries.

13. A vibrant and growth oriented rural economy calls for a greater participation of the people in the development efforts of the State. This is achieved through the Panchayat Raj institutions. Zilla Panchayats have been set up in all the 7 districts which were newly constituted.

14. The State Government has recently amended the Karnataka Panchayat Raj Act of 1993, through an ordinance,

in order to take up the restructuring of the existing Gram Panchayaths so as to make these bodies, more viable and vibrant at the grass root level. The Gram Panchayaths which were set up in the State after the passage of Karnataka Panchayat Raj Act, 1993, have in most cases failed to develop as vibrant institutions of self government due to the comparatively small jurisdiction and limited resources that could be mobilised by them. With the successful experience of the State during 1987-92 with the larger bodies, called Mandal Panchayaths, it is felt advantageous to change over to the system of larger panchayaths. The State would also consider entrusting more functions and transferring larger financial allocations to the new Grama Panchayaths once the restructuring of these institutions is completed.

15. Under the World Bank aided integrated Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project, water supply schemes for over 1,000 villages have been taken up at an estimated cost of Rs.447 Crores. So far Rs.200 Crores have been spent and these projects are expected to be completed before the end of 1999. A project, assisted by the Government of Netherlands for rural water supply and sanitation in the districts of Dharwar, Haveri, Gadag, Bijapur and Bagalkot is also under implementation This has an outlay of Rs.85 Crores and is targeted to be completed by December 1999.

16. For the welfare and development of the minorities, a separate Directorate has been created which will specifically concentrate on the problems faced by them. The Karnataka

Backward Classes Development Corporation will assist about 18,000 persons during the year 1999-2000 and also bring about 2,000 acres of land belonging to backward classes under irrigation.

17. To promote entrepreneurship among women, a special programme 'Yashaswini' is being formulated which would interalia focus on entrepreneurial training, skill development, technology transfer, venture capital, managerial assistance, marketing assistance etc.,

18. The karnataka Women's Development Corporation has been implementing the Rural Women's Economic Development and Empowerment Project in the four districts of Chitradurga, Tumkur, Bellary and Kolar. This project is being funded by the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the World Bank. This project is expected to benefit 24,000 rural poor women over a period of 5 years through formation of self-help groups, skill training on-farm development and undertaking income generation activities, at an estimated cost of Rs.31 Crores.

19. Being aware of the importance of food security to the economically deprived, my Government is distributing food grains at subsidised rates to sixty six lakh poor families under the targeted public distribution system, through the Government of India is providing food grains at subsidised rates only for Rs.28.75 lakh families. As a result my Government has to provide a subsidy of Rs. 300 Crores per annum, which also

includes the cost of distribution which has not been passed on to the poor. During the current year, my Government has also issued green cards to 6.22 lakh eligible poor families who were earlier left out to the public distribution system.

20. Section 77 of the Karnataka Land Reforms Act has been amended to facilitate the tenants who have so far not submitted their form No.7. They can now submit applications to the Deputy Commissioners and get their occupancy right. Last date for filing applications for regularisation of unauthorised cultivation has also been extended upto 30th April 1999.

21. Existing land records are very old. In order to preserve these valuable records, until re-survey work take place, a micro-film unit has been established at Bangalore. About 25,000 crores are being filmed every month. In addition to this, action to preserve these records by computerisation has also been taken up. For this purpose, Government of India has released Rs. 5.38 Crores, out of which Rs. 2.37 Crores have already been spent. The data entry is under progress.

22. For overall economic growth of the State, consistent production of wealth in the rural areas is critical. This can be achieved only through a steady growth in agricultural and horticultural production. Irrigation plays a major role in boosting agricultural production and also sustains it by insuring against the vagaries of monsoon. My Government is fully committed to develop the irrigation potential in the State and utilise its full share of water in all the river basins.

23. Four years ago people expressed doubts about the ability of our State to utilise its full share of Krishna waters before 2000 AD. Thanks to the bold decision taken by the Government in 1995 to raise huge resources from the market through the Krishna Bhagya Jala Nigama Limited, deploy adequate manpower and tackle on a war footing the construction of Upper Krihsna Project, we are today in a position to boldly announce that we would fully utilise our share of Krishna Waters. Through unprecedented efforts, Krishna Bhagya Jala Nigama could mobilise a record Rs.2.110 Crores since 1995-96. And we have now reached a stage where we can store water in Almatti reservoir by June 1999. An irrigation potential of 2.01 lakh acres has already been created in the Upper Krishna Project during this period.

24. Looking into the success of Krishna Bhagya Jala Nigama in raising resources and creating irrigation potential, we have now set up, on similar lines the Karnataka Neeravari Nigama Limited for completing other irrigation projects of Krishna basin.

25. Under the Government of India Scheme of Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme, a loan assistance of Rs. 175 Crores is approved for the on going projects namely, Upper Krishna Project Stage-1 Phase-III, Malaprabha, Hirehalla, Ghataprabha State-III and Karanja.

26. By the Year 1999 it is proposed to complete the following irrigation projects; Manchanabele, Chulkinala, Amaraja Votehole, lower Mullamari and Maskinala, which are all assisted by

NABARD. An irrigation potential of 19,883 acres has been created in Karanja project located in Bidar district, which is an important major irrigation project in the Godavari basin.

27. In the last 4 years my Government has spent an amount of Rs.1,150 Crores, on projects in the Cauvery basin. An amount of Rs.235 Crores has been spent up to end of December 1998, on Iggalur, Yagachi, Varuna Canal. Tumkur and Nagamangala branch canals of Hemavathy project, modernisation of K.R.S. and other projects of Cauvery basin, By the end of this financial year, Rs.330 Crores as provided in the Budget, will be fully spent on these projects.

28. The consistent stand of my Government that the river water disputes are to be solved amicably through negotiations among the riparian States, keeping in view the interest of the farmers has been vindicated by the constitution of Cauvery River Authority. It is the first of its kind in the history of solving national water disputes. The Prime Minister is designated as the Chairman and the Chief Ministers of the basin states are the members of the Authority. This has given a new dimension in resolving river water disputes.

29. A pioneer in the development of watersheds, Karnataka is implementing many watershed development programmes, with the assistance of external agencies and under centrally sponsored schemes. This will enable us to conserve meagre rainfall in the State and also to increase the re-charge of underground aquifers. In addition, the productivity of these dry land areas gets enhanced due to conserved topsoil and moisture.

30. A further boost in agricultural production both in dry lands and command areas is proposed to be achieved through the use of mechanised agricultural implements, particularly drum seeders, rotavators, trenches and the like. And to improve the awareness among the farmers of modern techniques and technologies, the 'Negila Yogi' scheme attempts to take the information to the doorsteps of the farmers.

31. To improve the farmers' exposure to the technologies in vogue in other parts of the country the programme of 'Bharath Darshan' has been continued with emphasis on visits to hi-tech. farms and research stations.

32. Keeping in view the fact that Karnataka has a great potential in Agricultural and Horticultural produce, an exclusive policy and package of incentives and concessions are being formulated to promote food processing industries. A new policy on this is on the anvil. This will not only be immensely beneficial to the growers by assuring adequate and fairly stabilized returns., but will also improve the value addition to the agricultural and horticultural produce.

33. To promote agro processing in the northern parts of the State, it is proposed to establish ten sugar factories in the co-operative sector. My Government has successfully negotiated with NCDC for an assistance of Rs.163 Crores towards the share capital to be invested by the State. These factories which will be commissioned soon., will also have co-generation units to produce 11 Mega Watt of power.

34. For marketing the horticultural produce, a comprehensive project has been prepared by the Karnataka State Co-operative Horticultural Marketing Federation for being posed to Funding Agencies. Also, for promoting exports and local marketing, my Government is considering establishment of a flower auction centre. With the assistance of Agricultural Produce Export Development Agency, to help the hi-tech flower growers of the State.

35. Karnataka produces 9,236 Metric Tons of mulberry raw silk, which constitute 65% of the total silk produced in the country. Sericulture has been for centuries, a major source of living for more than 3.5 million people of the State. The recent development of entry of international silk into Indian market has posed a serious challenge to the sericulture industry as never before. Indeed it poses a threat to the survival of sericulture sector. My Government, therefore, urges the Government of India to consider withdrawal of the notification permitting import of silk.

36. The sericulture section in Karnataka is poised to undergo fundamental changes during the coming years. In co-ordination with the Japan International Co-operation Agency, a new and vigorous race of bivoltine silkworm has been introduced. The Karnataka State Sericulture Research and Development Institute has brought out a new multi-voltine race MH1 and multiend reeling machines for production of high quality yarn. This will drastically reduce the cost of production and enhance the quality of silk.

37. In our continued efforts to help the milk producers get reasonable profits while providing hygienic and nutritious, milk and milk products to the consumers at fair price, my Government proposes to establish a Mega Dairy in Bangalore at an estimated cost of Rs.50 Crores. This will help in processing 6 lakh litres of milk per day, thereby creating ready market for the milk produced by the farmers. To overcome the problem of excess milk during the flush season, a milk powder plant of 30 Metric Tons capacity, at a cost of Rs.22 Crores, will also be established. This will ensure that the excess milk is converted into powder and preserved for reconstitution and distribution during the lean season.

38. The integrated Inland Fisheries Development Project at a cost of Rs.13.4 Crores, with the assistance of NCDC, will be implemented in the districts of Shimoga, Dharwad, Davangere, Haveri, Raichur and Bellary, which would help in developing fresh water resources and augment fish production.

39. Future growth in economy will also call for taking steps to improve the infrastructure at ports. The State Government has formulated its own policy to attract private investment for development of ports. Based on this policy, agencies have been short-listed to submit detailed project reports for development of ports at Tadri, Belikere and Old Mangalore. I am happy to mention that Containerisation service will be introduced at Karwar port shortly. This will greatly help the districts in the northern part, which hitherto depended mostly on Chennai Port for availing this service.

40. The project 'Sea Bird' at Karwar, though initiated in 1986, could not take off for a long time. My Government took the initiative to arrive at a final package, which would take care of the rehabilitation of the project displaced families. My Government is grateful to all concerned for accepting this package. The project would now get expedited, which would stimulate economic activities in the area.

41. Recognising the importance of good roads for development of economy, the Government is seeking from the World Bank, a loan assistance of Rs.1,200 crores for strengthening and maintenance of State Highways. A programme, with an outlay of Rs. 350 Crores, for the development of rural roads and construction of bridges, has been taken up with the loan assistance from NABARD and works are under progress. A further loan assistance of Rs. 100 Crores is being sought from NABARD for improving communication in the rural areas.

42. I am happy to announce that the persistent efforts of my Government have resulted in the centre declaring the following State Highways as National Highways.

i. Ankola-Hubli-Hospet-Gooty (AP) Road,
ii. Tumkur-Honnavar Road.
iii. Mangalore-Thirthahalli-Shimoga-Chitradurga Road.
iv. Bangalore (From NH-7) to Kollegal, Chamrajanagar-Satyamangala on to Tamil Nadu border.
v. Hosur-Sarjapur-Devanahalli-Doddaballapur and joining NH-4 beyond Nelamangala.

43. The detailed feasibility report in respect of mass rapid transit system for Bangalore on Build Own Operate and Transfer basis is under preparation. The concession agreement is expected to be signed by the middle of 1999. The First Phase of the project is expected to begin by early 2000. Construction of an Outer Ring Road for Bangalore, covering a length of 65 Kms, was long over due. My Government tackled this pending project and a length of 26 Kms. out of this is already operational between Mysore road and Hosur Road, Bellary Road and Old Madras Road. The HUDCO has extended a loan assistance of Rs. 180 Crores to take up further works. The entire length of the Intermediate Ring Road, from Airport to Koramangala, is expected to be operational soon. The construction of flyovers from Sirsi Circle to Town Hall and at Richmond Circle at an estimated cost of Rs.112 Crores is under progress. It is proposed to construct a grade separator at Mekhri Circle at an estimated cost of Rs. 20 Crores. Preliminary concept reports to construct flyover at Hudson circle and Trinity circle have been prepared. Work is under progress for reconstruction of 245 Kms. of arterial and sub-arterial roads of Bangalore at a cost of Rs.155 Crores. With the commissioning of these projects, Bangalore citizens will have better roads and smooth flow of traffic leading to lesser pollution.

44. It is proposed to develop the town of Mangalore, Udupi, Karwar, Sirsi, Dandeli, Bhatkal, Puttur, Ankola, Kundapur and Ullala under the Karnataka Coastal Environmental Management and Urban Development Project, to be assisted by the Asian

Development Bank. The fact finding mission of the Bank has prepared an aide memoir, which contemplates a package of sub projects, with a funding arrangement totalling Rs.700 Crores.

45. The Karnataka Urban Water Supply and Drainage Board is at present implementing 115 water supply schemes and 12 underground drainage schemes. Out of these, 59 schemes have already been commissioned. It is proposed to commission 30 schemes during the current year. Under the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme, 9 schemes have been taken up under central assistance, of which 3 schemes are commissioned. Further, 5 new schemes will be taken up during the year.

46. Feasibility Reports to provide water supply and under ground drainage facility to 38 medium sized urban areas with a population of more than 20,000 inhabitants, are being prepared. It is proposed to obtain World Bank aid for these schemes. With the assistance of HUDCO it is proposed to take up 26 new water supply schemes at an estimated cost of Rs.262 Crores. The Municipal Development Project mission, for World Bank Assistance, has identified 20 urban local bodies in North Karnataka for a study to provide water supply and underground drainage services at an estimated outlay of Rs.600 Crores.

47. It is with a special pride that we take note of the pioneering work done in the last few years by Karnataka in the area of Information Technology and the lead it is maintaining in this field. Karnataka has a vast network of IT industries and huge IT software exports. The people of Karnataka are aware of the importance of IT and are meeting the challenges of the new technology century.

48. The State is getting geared up to enter the new IT era through varied efforts. From a small software export of Rs.5 Crores in 1992, Karnataka State has achieved a software export of Rs.2,500 Crores in the year 1998. The consistent efforts of my Government have thus put Karnataka on the map of India and Asia as an IT giant. With over 267 export oriented units in IT sector, Karnataka State and Bangalore in particular, is known all over the world as one of the major centres of IT. Even International Surveys have recently recognised Bangalore as IT capital of India and also as one amongst the top 10 techno cities of the world. The successful Mega event, Bangalore IT.Com 98, inaugurated on 1st November 1998 projected Karnataka as an IT powerhouse. More than 265 National and International IT Companies participated in this event which attracted about 3 lakh visitors.

49. My Government has initiated several steps to the last year to develop a silicon triangle with Hubli, Mangalore and Mysore at the vertices. The Earth Station at the Mysore Software Technology Park site has been commissioned on 1st November , 1998 and the Software Technology Park at Hubli, is in an advanced state. In the current year 330 acres of land has been added to the existing Electronic City on Hosur Road, making it the largest IT park in Asia. During the year 1999-2000, it is projected that nine privately funded Software Technology Parks will be established in Bangalore and two large Software Technology Parks in Mangalore and Mysore.

50. The driving force behind all industries including IT sector, would be power availability. I am proud to inform you that the year 1999 is going to be a historic year with a record addition to the power generation capacity of the State. For the Karnataka Power Corporation, it will be a year of great accomplishment when it will add 600 Mega Watt to the State's installed capacity. This 600 Mega Watt would come through 420 Mega Watt at Thermal Power Station, Raichur and 180 Mega Watt at Kadra and Kodasalli. I would like to remind the Hon'ble Members that the projects at Kadra and Kodasalli were languishing since 1987 and it was the bold decision of my Government to tackle these two projects on priority which has enabled the commissioning of Kadra Unit I with 50 Mega Watt capacity in November 1998 and Kadra unit II with 50 Mega Watt capacity in January 1999. Kadra unit III and Kodasalli Units II and III are going to be commissioned by July 1999.

51. Another bold decision of my Government in the year 1995 was to withdraw the construction of 5th and 6th units at Raichur Thermal Power Station from private sector with whom a MOU has been entered into, and entrusting the same to KCPL, which is a public sector unit. The stand of my Government has now been vindicated with the commissioning of the 5th unit of 210 Mega Watt much ahead of the schedule. This commissioning has been done in a period of 28 months of financial closure which is both a national and state record. The 6th unit of 210 Mega Watt is also expected to be commissioned during May 1999. The early commissioning of

these 2 units with an outlay of Rs.1,545 Crores has not only brought laurels to the State but has also led to substantial savings in the project cost.

52. Additional generation of 12.5 million units of energy, due to this increased capacity, will result in an increase of 25% in available energy in the grid, easing the power situation in the State.

53. These achievements of my Government in the power sector has encouraged us to go ahead with taking up several major projects including the 7th unit of 'Raichur Thermal Power Station of 210 Mega Watt and a unit of 500 Mega Watt of Vijayanagar Thermal Power Station at Hospet.

54. Further, while according highest priority for increasing the generation capacity, my Government has simultaneously taken a number of innovative programmes through the KEB, to minimise the transmission loss and to provide quality power to the consumer by improving the grid capacity. 25 sub stations have been augmented and 39 new stations and 652 KMs of new transmission line commissioned during 1998-99. A perspective plan has been prepared for upgrading the transmission and distribution new work over the next three years at an estimated outlay of Rs.3,000 Crores. The key element of this plan includes establishing 220 stations, and laying 1300 KMs of new transmission line. KEB has tied up adequate funding for its programme through Power Finance Corporation Rural Electrification Corporation and HUDCO.

For the first time in the country HUDCO will be financing an Electricity Board in transmission sector.

55. The State has committed itself to structural reforms in the power sector in order to improve the efficiency of the sector, ensure its viability and enable it to play its rightful role in promoting agricultural, industrial and overall growth of the State's economy.

56. My Government will be shortly setting up a Karnataka Infrastructure Development and Finance Corporation, which is meant to provide finance and non-fund based services to the infrastructure projects in core areas. The Government has imposed cess on sales tax, excise duty, stamp duty and motor vehicle tax for raising resources for the Corporation. Government will also seek participation from multilateral and bilateral external funding agencies as well as from Indian Financial Institutions for strengthening the financial base of this Corporation.

57. Continued emphasis of my Government on basic infrastructure like power, roads, etc., has resulted in the State attracting substantial industrial investment during the period April to December 1998, despite the prevailing recessionary conditions world over. The State level single window agency has approved 58 medium and large projects with an investment of about 1,500 Crores. The high level committee has approved 6 mega projects with an investment to the tune of Rs.6,300 Crores. Karnataka was able to attract foreign investment of about Rs.4,300 Crores, which constitute 28.21% of the

investment approved for the entire country during the period April-September 1998. I am proud to say that this is the highest among all the States.

58. Even in respect of small-scale industrial units we have done well. Eight thousand five hundred and ninety-nine small-scale industrial units were registered, with an investment of Rs.360 Crores, providing employment of about 41,000 persons.

59. Karnataka's exports have been growing steadily and has reached a level of Rs.8,000 Crores in the year 1997-98. The State has played an active role in promotion of exports by establishing exclusive Export Promotion Park, up-gradation and modernisation of Air Cargo Complex, installation of cold storage facilities and an Electronic Date Interchange. A high level Export Development Council has been constituted by the Government. In order to accelerate exports from the State and confirm the commitments made under various agreements signed with the World Trade Organisation, the State Government will strengthen the institutional mechanism to co-ordinate all the activities in the State relating to exports and prepare action plans, in each of the specific industrial and service segments, where the State has a demonstrable potential for growth.

60. With Norwegian assistance, an integrated ecological and environmental development of Mysore urban region, with an outlay of Rs.3.8 Crores, is being planned. The objective of the project is to maintain the ecological and environmental stability of Chamundi Hills and the surrounding urban and

rural areas and to promote tourism by enhancing the natural beauty of the hills. A similar programme with Norwegian assistance, with an approved outlay of Rs.4 Crores, is being implemented for integrated development of Madivala Hebbal and Agaram lakes in Bangalore.

61. A comprehensive feasibility report for the integrated development of Hampi, which is a world heritage site and the picturesque Jog falls is under preparation with the help of reputed consultants, for seeking financial assistance. I am also happy to inform you that the cultural complex at Bellary has been recently inaugurated which was developed with the assistance of Government of India.

62. I am proud to inform you that the prestigious cultural complex, 'Kannada Bhavana' has been dedicated to the people of Karnataka. A memorial complex was inaugurated at Sadhana Keri, Dharwad on 31-1-1999, which happens to be the 103rd birth anniversary of the poet laureate, Dr. Da.Ra. Bendre. Action is being taken to disseminate information on Art, Architecture, Music, Dance, Literature and cultural traditions of Karnataka through the Internet.

63. I would like to dwell upon the law and order situation in the State. The situation in the State during the year was peaceful barring a few sporadic incidents. The Dattajayanthi celebrations at Bababudangiri were handled with great caution and due to strict measures taken by my Government, the celebrations passed off peacefully. Communal violence that erupted at Suratkal in Dakshina Kannada District and other

places were contained with a firm hand. My Government is totally committed to maintain communal harmony. The interests of the minorities shall be protected.

64. With a view to maintain and enhance the efficiency of the sub-ordinate judiciary, my Government intends to establish a 'Judicial Academy' in the State. The academy is to enable the Judicial officers to acquire knowledge, managerial skills and social comprehension through orientational and special training programmes. This will be for both entrants and in-service officers for better administration of justice.

65. In my address it has been possible to touch upon only a few areas. I am sure, members will be discussing a number of other programmes which are being implemented by my Government to ensure economic growth with social justice. Economic growth pre-supposes social harmony and social justice demands that every section of the society has a stake in its growth. I would like to emphasise the fact that while our society is composed of people speaking different languages, practising different religions and following different customs, we firmly believe in the values of tolerance, mutual respect and co-operation. Our very strength lies in this plural culture. It is with this conviction that my Government will shortly take the initiative to organise a national symposium on communal harmony to foster our great cultural heritage.

66. I cherish the memory of my association with the State since 1991. I am overwhelmed by the love and affection showered on me by the people of Karnataka. I have always felt exhilarated travelling across the splendid and picturesque

State, which has a rich diversity of flora and fauna, local traditions and culture. Addressing the joint session of the Karnataka Legislature has always given me a great satisfaction and pleasure. Through the Hon'ble Members of this House, I convey my appreciation of the diligent, talented and enlightened people of this State.

67. Let me conclude my speech by wishing members of both the Houses every success in their deliberation.

Jai Karnataka, Jai Hind.

ಸದನವು 12 ಗಂಟೆ 30 ನಿಮಿಷಕ್ಕೆ ಮುಕ್ತಾಯಗೊಂಡು ಪುನ : 15 ನಿಮಿಷಗಳ ನಂತರ ಸಭೆ ಸೇರಲು ನಿಶ್ಚಯಿಸಿತು)

(ಸಭೆಯು 12-40ಕ್ಕೆ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭವಾಯಿತು)

(ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸಭಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರಾದ ಶ್ರೀ ರಮೇಶ್ ಕುಮಾರ್ ಅವರು ಸಭಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರ ಪೀಠವನ್ನು ಅಲಂಕರಿಸಿದ್ದರು)

(2) ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಭಾಷಣದ ಮುಂದನೆ

ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು :— ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರು ಉಭಯ ಸದನಗಳನ್ನುದ್ದೇಶಿಸಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಭಾಷಣದ ಪ್ರತಿಯನ್ನು ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಯವರು ಸಭೆಯ ಮುಂದಿಡುವುದು.

ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ :— ಮಾನ್ಯ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರು ಉಭಯ ಸದನಗಳನ್ನುದ್ದೇಶಿಸಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಭಾಷಣದ ಪ್ರತಿಯನ್ನು ಸಭೆಯ ಮುಂದಿಡುತ್ತೇನೆ.

ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರು ಮಾಡಿದ ಭಾಷಣದ ಕನ್ನಡದ ಭಾಷಾಂತರ.

ಮಾನ್ಯ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರು :— ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸಭಾಪತಿಯವರೇ, ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸಭಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರೇ ಹಾಗೂ ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸದಸ್ಯರೇ,

ರಾಜ್ಯ ವಿಧಾನಮಂಡಲದ ಈ ಜಂಟಿ ಅಧಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ ನಾನು ತಮ್ಮೆಲ್ಲರನ್ನೂ ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಸಂತೋಷದಿಂದ ಸ್ವಾಗತಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ. ಇದು ಪ್ರಸಕ್ತ ವರ್ಷದ ಮೊದಲನೇ ಅಧಿವೇಶನವಾಗಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ನಾನು ತಮ್ಮೆಲ್ಲರಿಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ಜನತೆಗೆ ಹೊಸ ವರ್ಷವು ಸಂತಸ ಹಾಗೂ ಸಮೃದ್ಧಿಯನ್ನು ತರಲೆಂದು ಹಾರೈಸುತ್ತೇನೆ. 1999 ಒಂದು ವಿಶೇಷವಾದ ವರ್ಷ; ಅದು ನೂತನ ಸಹಸ್ರಮಾನದ ಹೊಸ್ತಿಲಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಂತಿದೆ.